



UNIVERSITY OF UTAH
COLLEGE^{OF} NURSING

Application Instruction and Information Packet

for the following programs:

RN-BS

RN-BS with early MS Admission

RN-BS Geriatric Nurse Leadership

Programs Starting 2016

For questions please contact:

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PROGRAM INFORMATION

- Students can apply to the part-time or full-time program
 - Typical part-time students complete the program in 4 consecutive semesters (16 months)
 - Typical full-time students complete the program in 2 consecutive semesters (8 months)
 - For each student a personalized plan of study is created
 - At any time students can meet with an advisor/program manager to adapt their plan of study (ie. can slow down their program of study or take a 1-2 semester leave of absence if necessary)
- Coursework is entirely online.
 - Students attend a 1 day orientation the week prior to the first semester and attend a poster presentation the final semester of the program. (students who live at a great distance from Salt Lake City may be given special consideration for this requirement)
- Students receive 30 upper division credits for their registered nursing licensure (at no cost to the student)
- Program provides licensed RNs with career mobility, professional development, critical thinking skills and bachelor-level nursing competencies
- Students complete a clinical capstone in their final semester with 32 hours of focused shadowing experience. This experience is usually set up in your place of employment
- Curriculum includes: health promotion, health care disparities, global and public health nursing, leadership and health policy, issues associated with special populations, nursing research, evidence-based practice, and community-engaged learning

ELIGIBILITY

- Completion of an Associate Degree (A.S. or A.A.S.) from an accredited institution in Nursing from a nursing program recognized by the University of Utah prior to starting the RN-BS program.
- Current, unencumbered license as an RN or new graduate with successful completion of NCLEX within two months of starting RN-BS program.
- Completion of all [general education requirements](#) prior to starting the nursing program from a regionally accredited institution. Contact [University College](#) to verify completion of courses. Current U of U students can verify completion of general education requirements via the Degree Audit Report (DARS). Students with an A.A.S. degree will likely have outstanding general education requirements and are encouraged to review these requirements prior to applying to the program.
- Completion of nursing prerequisite/corequisite courses from a regionally accredited institution with a grade of C or higher.
 - **Up to three (3) general education and/or prerequisite/corequisite courses can be completed during the program.**
- Minimum 2.8 prerequisite/corequisite cumulative grade point average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale.
- Minimum 2.8 cumulative grade point average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale.
- Minimum 2.8 nursing program grade point average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale.

Meeting the minimum eligibility requirements does not guarantee admission to the RN-BS program.

RN-BS WITH EARLY MS ADMISSION

When applying to the RN-BS program students have the options to apply for early MS in Nursing Admission. Applicants must declare a graduate emphasis they are applying for: Nursing Education, Nursing Informatics, or Care Management.

If accepted, this allows the student to complete the RN-BS program coursework as listed on pages 10-11 and then seamlessly transition into the MS in Nursing program.

Students must meet minimum RN-BS Eligibility and have a 3.2 or higher cumulative GPA.

Students accepted to this program are required to have the following prior to beginning the MS program:

- Completion of statistics course within the previous 3 years with a B or better (can complete the online course NURS 5550 to meet this requirement)
- Completion of upper division physiology course within the previous 5 years (can complete the online course NURS 5905 to meet this requirement, this course also meets the required elective of the RN-BS program)
- Maintain a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA
- Submit application to Graduate School by published deadlines

PREREQUISITE/COREQUISITE COURSEWORK

Completion of ALL 9 nursing prerequisite/corequisite courses are required prior to completion of the RN-BS program. Up to three (3) courses may be completed during the program. All prerequisite/corequisite must have a grade of C or higher.

Prerequisite/Corequisite Courses:

- Human Anatomy
 - Human Physiology
 - Elementary Chemistry
 - Elementary Bio-Organic Chemistry
 - Introduction to Statistical Inference
 - Nutrition Intervention
 - Human Development: Lifespan
 - Pathophysiology
 - Medical Microbiology
-
- Courses can be accepted from other regionally accredited institutions
 - Previously approved courses listed at <http://nursing.utah.edu/programs/rn-bs-programonline.php>
 - Courses will not expire. (i.e. - if you completed an equivalent course 10 years ago it could still meet a prerequisite/corequisite requirement)
 - Coursework is reviewed to ensure it meets requirements for the program

- An unofficial review of prerequisite/corequisite coursework can be completed BEFORE applying to the program with unofficial transcripts
 - To request a review contact the College of Nursing Program Manager
- Official reviews are completed as part of the application process
- Majority of the courses need to be completed: 3 prerequisite/corequisite courses can remain at the time you start the program
 - Note that all must be completed for graduation
 - Students choosing the full-time option must have all prerequisite/corequisite and general education coursework completed prior to program start.

GENERAL EDUCATION COURSEWORK

It is the responsibility of each student to verify transferability of general education courses, and/or degree (Associate or Bachelor) with University of Utah – Transfer Office at (801) 581-7286 or <http://admissions.utah.edu/apply/undergraduate/transfer/index.php>.

All General Education Coursework must be completed prior to graduation and it is highly advised to complete this coursework prior to starting the RN-BS Program.

Up to three (3) general education and/or prerequisite/corequisite courses can be completed during the program.

TUITION AND FINANCIAL AID

TUITION

The overall cost will vary depending on tuition rate changes, books and fees. To see the current tuition rates, refer to the "upper division: junior and senior" undergraduate tuition rate schedule online at <http://fbs.admin.utah.edu/income/tuition/>.

Textbook costs average \$100/semester. As of 2015 the estimated cost of the program for a Utah resident ranges from \$11,400 – 13,200 depending on full-time versus part-time attendance. Estimate includes nursing tuition, fees, and books.

FINANCIAL AID

Students can also apply for Federal Financial Aid using the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at <https://fafsa.ed.gov/>.

More information about FAFSA can be found at <http://financialaid.utah.edu/>.

COLLEGE OF NURSING SCHOLARSHIPS

Students who have been officially admitted to the nursing program are eligible to apply for College of Nursing scholarships.

Application forms may be downloaded from

<http://nursing.utah.edu/students/scholarship/undergrad/index.php> three to four months prior to the deadline.

- Scholarship deadline will be stated on website (usually within 1-2 weeks of application deadline)

Both part-time and full-time RN-BS students can qualify for scholarships

All applications must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. to the Coordinator for Recruitment and Financial Aid in the Office of Academic Programs and Student Services. In the event a deadline falls on a weekend or holiday, applications must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. the following business day. Criteria for these scholarships vary, but most are offered based on merit and demonstration of financial need.

When other scholarships or financial aid opportunities become available, students will be advised through posting on the scholarship bulletin boards in the Office of Academic Programs and Student Services, email or Canvas. Please keep your email current in the University of Utah Campus Information System.

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Applications are accepted for summer or fall semester admission and starting in Spring 2017 also for spring semester start. Individuals preparing to apply to the RN-BS program are encouraged to contact the RN-BS Program Manager with any application questions or concerns.

Summer Semester 2016 Application

Deadline: January 15, 2016

Fall Semester 2016 Application

Deadline: May 15, 2016 (Priority Deadline March 1)

Spring Semester 2017 Application (Note there is not a Spring Semester 2016 application option)

Deadline: TBA

APPLICATION STEPS

- Submitted [College of Nursing Application](#) online, which includes:

- Personal Essay
- Resume

We recommend having a copy of your transcripts accessible so you can input the information on the pre-requisite portion of the application. If you have your resume and personal essay ready to upload, you should be able to complete the application in approximately one hour.

- Three letters of recommendation - recommendations are submitted through the online application system. Please have the recommenders email addresses ready when completing the recommendation request.
- Official transcripts from any and all colleges and universities attended this includes the University of Utah - This includes the transcripts from any college or university when high school concurrent enrollment courses are taken.
- Apply to the University of Utah main campus (not required for current U of U Students)

Applications will only be reviewed if they are complete by the deadline and meet all eligibility requirements listed on the website. Students are responsible for the completion of their application file. Incomplete files will not be reviewed.

For questions or assistance with completing the application, please contact Nicole Shannon, Program Manager nicole.shannon@nurs.utah.edu or 801.581.8487.

Personal Essay

TOPIC: Highlight your professional and academic goals and how you anticipate the RN-BS program will assist in reaching them.

Essays will be evaluated on the following criteria:

Relevance to the question

Organization/logic/clarity

Writing style (technical aspects, e.g., grammar, punctuation, and capitalization)

YOUR ESSAY MUST BE YOUR OWN WORK.

The essay should be double-spaced and no more than two (2) pages. References may be used if appropriate, but are not necessary. If used, they must be properly documented.

Resume

PLEASE NOTE: Your resume is your opportunity to introduce yourself to the Admissions Committee. Unlike your professional resume, here you should take the opportunity to expand on your accomplishments. Information should be detailed, but with concise & professional information. Please limit your work to 3 pages, and follow the basic format outlined below.

Education- Year graduated from high school and/or college, institutions attended, degree(s) earned

Work Experience- Position, employer, specific dates of employment, brief description of duties and primary achievements. Start with most recent first. Any type of work experience is acceptable. Examples of Work Experience: Research, Supervisory, Professional, Non-Clinical, Non-Medical Related, Clinical - Direct Patient Contact (CNA, Phlebotomist, EMT, Healthcare/Medical Assistant, Paramedic),

Volunteer Experience- Name of the organization, your role in the organization, how long you served (dates, hours per week), brief description of responsibilities

-Examples of Volunteer Experience Type: Campus, Community, Religious Service

Leadership Experience- Your title or designated role, how long you served (dates, hours per week), brief description

-Examples of Leadership Type: Mentor/Tutor, Teaching Assistant, Research Assistant, Governance of Clubs/Organizations, Religious Service, Military Service, Parent Teacher Organizations, Managing/Supervising, President, Training new employees, coaching, etc.

Awards, Publications and/or Recognition

Certifications

Other Relevant Experiences- List any other information that you believe is important to the selection process. Such information could include study abroad, conferences attended, competitions entered, internships or research opportunities, ability to speak another language, etc.

Official Transcripts

An official transcript from each university and college you have attended (including the University of Utah) must be sent to the College of Nursing and received by the application deadline.

You can send the transcript by mail or you can hand deliver the transcript in a sealed envelope to:

College of Nursing
Student Services
10 S. 2000 E.
Salt Lake City, UT 84112

or by official email direct from the institution (this includes the National Clearinghouse):

admissions@nurs.utah.edu

If you are sending a transcript from an institution that you are currently enrolled in classes, it is your responsibility to submit updated transcripts when in progress classes are completed and graded.

If you are applying to the University, you will also need to have official transcripts sent to the University of Utah Admissions Office.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Applicants must meet all University of Utah admission requirements for international students (see the University of Utah General Catalog <http://www.acs.utah.edu/GenCatalog/>). Applicants must submit the same requirements as non-international students.

SCREENING OF APPLICANTS

Applicants are carefully reviewed by the Baccalaureate Admissions and Advancement Committee on the basis of academic qualifications as well as promise for success in the program and potential for contributions to the profession. The College of Nursing adheres to the University of Utah's policy of nondiscrimination and equal opportunity in admission decisions. If the number of qualified applicants exceeds the resources of the college, students are accepted on the basis of the recommendations of the Baccalaureate Admissions and Advancement Committee and the dean of the college.

If the applicant does not enroll as a student and participate in College of Nursing courses the first week of classes for the semester admitted, the position in the entering class will be forfeited. If you need to defer your acceptance to a future term please contact the Program Manager.

APPLICATION NOTIFICATIONS

All applicants will receive notification about the status of their application by email via the email address provided on the College of Nursing application.

Students who are denied admission are responsible for completing and submitting a new application each admission cycle. Denied students can contact Students Services for information on how to strengthen their application. Denied applications are not automatically forwarded to the following cycle.

EXPECTATIONS OF ADMITTED STUDENTS

- Within 72 hours of receiving your admissions letter you will be required to purchase a Certified Background package which will cost you roughly \$170.00.
- You will need to be current with all of the following immunizations prior to the start of the program:
 - Hepatitis A series
 - Hepatitis B 3 shot series with titer
 - TB skin test/yearly (2 step or blood test)
 - MMR
 - TDAP
 - Flu Shot (during flu season, yearly)
- Prior to the start of the program you will also be required to show proof of CPR adult and child certification from American Heart Association, First Aid is optional.
- You will be required to attend a one day on-campus orientation at the beginning of the program and a final project presentation during 4th semester. If you live at a great distance from Salt Lake City you may be given special consideration for this requirement, please talk to your advisor.
- If you are not already a current student your admissions to the College of Nursing is contingent upon being admitted to the University of Utah- It is your responsibility to apply to the University

of Utah through main campus admissions prior to the start of your nursing program, please be aware of the application deadlines or you will be subject to late fees.

RN-BS PROGRAM OF STUDY

EXAMPLE OF TYPICAL PART-TIME PROGRAM OF STUDY

- Semester 1: NURS 3107: Nursing and Health Promotion (3)
NURS 3108: Evidence-Based Practice in Nursing (3, QI)
- Semester 2: NURS 3106: Complex Concepts of Health Assessment for RNs (3)
NURS 3113: Nursing Across Systems and Populations for RNs (4, DV)
- Semester 3: NURS 4110: Global Health Nursing (3, IR)
NURS 4116: Public Health Nursing for RNs (3)
Approved Upper Division Elective (3)
- Semester 4: NURS 4140: Enhanced Professional Nursing for RNs (5)
NURS 4150: Nursing Initiatives (3, QI, CW)

EXAMPLE OF TYPICAL FULL-TIME PROGRAM OF STUDY

- Semester 1: NURS 3107: Nursing and Health Promotion (3)
NURS 3108: Evidence-Based Practice in Nursing (3, QI)
NURS 3106: Complex Concepts of Health Assessment for RNs (3)
NURS 3113: Nursing Across Systems and Populations for RNs (4, DV)
Approved Upper Division Elective (3)
- Semester 2: NURS 4110: Global Health Nursing (3, IR)
NURS 4116: Public Health Nursing for RNs (3)
NURS 4140: Enhanced Professional Nursing for RNs (5)
NURS 4150: Nursing Initiatives (3, QI, CW)

GERIATRIC NURSE LEADERSHIP (GNL) RN-BS PROGRAM

Specialty track with participation in the GNL program denoted on your transcript. Students work in partnership with local organizations, preparing for the important leadership role of working with and mentoring other staff, and incorporating the principles of cultural competence in the care of elders and the supervision of culturally diverse workers

EXAMPLE OF TYPICAL PART-TIME PROGRAM OF STUDY for RN-BS GNL

- Semester 1: NURS 3107: Nursing and Health Promotion (3)
GERON 5100: Applications of Research in Aging (3, QI)
- Semester 2: NURS 3106: Complex Concepts of Health Assessment for RNs (3)
NURS 3113: Nursing Across Systems and Populations for RNs (4, DV)
- Semester 3: NURS 4110: Global Health Nursing (3, IR)
NURS 4116: Public Health Nursing for RNs (3)
GERON 5050: Best Practices in Geriatric Nursing (3)

Semester 4: NURS 4140: Enhanced Professional Nursing for RNs (5)
NURS 4150: Nursing Initiatives (3, QI, CW)

A full-time option is also available for the Geriatric Nurse Leadership program.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Completion of the RN-BS program fulfills the following Bachelor's of Science degree and graduation requirements:

- Upper division communication/writing (CW)
- Diversity (DV)
- Upper division international (IR)
- Two BS quantitative intensive (QI) courses
- Upper-Division Credit Requirement - 30 hours complete in Nursing coursework and 30 hours of upper division credit are awarded for professional license for a total of 60 credit hours

Additional requirements for the Bachelor's degree include:

- Completion of general education courses
- Minimum 122 semester/credit hours

Completion of university general education requirements and graduation requirements, <http://undergradbulletin.utah.edu/degree-reqs.php>.

RN-BS COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

NURS 3107 - Nursing and Health Promotion - This course focuses on concepts associated with health and health promotion across the lifespan. Emphasis is placed on risk reduction, healthy behavior, and promotion of conditions that optimize health outcomes.

NURS 3108 – Evidence-Based Practice in Nursing - This course introduces concepts associated with evidence-based nursing practice. Emphasis is placed on defining and describing scientific research methods and processes and locating and evaluating evidence for nursing practice. Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to locate, evaluate, and translate evidence from the discipline of nursing for use in the profession of nursing. (QI)

NURS 3106 – Complex Health Assessment -This course focuses on concepts related to assessment of the individual and family. Emphasis is placed on refinement of previously acquired assessment skills and development of new health assessment abilities.

NURS 3113 – Nursing across Systems and Populations - This course introduces concepts for professional nursing practice at a systems level. Emphasis is placed on leadership skills, collaborative practice, and working with populations who have experienced inequitable treatment. (DV)

NURS 4110 – Global Health Nursing - This course further develops professional nursing practice from a local to a national and international level. Emphasis is placed on concepts associated with leadership skills for health policy and national and international issues. This course provides comparative framework for understanding professional nursing issues in global context.

NURS 4116 – Public Health Nursing - This course applies concepts related to health promotion and illness prevention in public health arenas. Emphasis is placed on assessment, policy development, and assurance. Upon completion, the student should be able to apply the Scope and Standards of Public Health Nursing Practice in a variety of settings. (IR)

NURS 4140 – Enhanced Professional Nursing - This course provides the baccalaureate student an opportunity to synthesize knowledge gained from the entire program of study. Emphasis is placed on the analysis of concepts associated with health care policies within an institution, organization, or government entity. Upon completion the student will design and implement a durable project from within discipline of nursing which satisfies an identified need within the student's area of interest.

NURS 4150 – Nursing Initiatives - This capstone course focuses on enhancement of the professional nursing role in student-identified area of emphasis. The focus is placed on the application and integration of concepts associated with professional practice as students explore specialty roles. This course includes 32 hours of clinical experience - shadowing a nurse in leadership position or other baccalaureate role; unit educator, wound specialist, diabetes educator, etc

GERON 5100 – Applications of Research in Aging – This course is designed to develop the basic ability of the student as an informed consumer and participant in the process of aging research. Students will collect, analyze, display, and interpret data in order to address issues related to aging populations. Development of a sense of inquiry through understanding and applying the logical steps of the research process are emphasized.

GERON 5050 – Best Practices in Geriatric Nursing - The course presents an overview of best practices in the care of the older client and his/her family. Included in the course are assessment and management of safety risks, and symptoms, and syndromes common in older adults emphasizing evidence-based practices. Included are detection and management of pain, falls, medication safety, end of life care, and behavioral syndromes. The impact of attitudes, ethical issues, special communication needs, and culture on formal and familial care giving are also considered